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Message Text

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PAGE 01 QUITO 02373 082308Z

70
ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-10 ISO-00 SS-15 OES-03 H-02 L-02 OFA-01

SP-02 INR-07 INRE-00 SSO-00 /053 W
---------- 045082
O 082245Z APR 75 ZFF-4
FM AMEMBASSY QUITO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 5092
INFO USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MEXICO

C O N F I D E N T I A L QUITO 2373

GENEVA FOR LOS DELEGATION

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PLOS EFIS EC
SUBJECT: LOS: TUNA TALKS WITH ECUADOR

REF: STATE 79223

1. WE ARE SOMEWHAT APPREHENSIVE THAT COURSE OF ACTION PROPOSED PARA TWO REFTEL COULD POSSIBLY HAVE CONTRARY EFFECT TO THAT WE ALL OBVIOUSLY DESIRE. IT OCCURS TO US THAT RATHER THAN MAINTAINING MOMENTUM OF FISHERIES TALKS, INFORMING GOE DELEGATION OF STEPS TAKEN TO GET PRESIDENTIAL WAIVER COULD BE MISCONSTRUED BY GOE AS UNACCEPTABLE AND EXPLICIT LINKAGE BETWEEN LOS MATTERS AND FMS SANCTIONS. THIS IN TURN COULD RAISE UNNECESSARY COMPLICATIONS IN ATMOSPHERE OF GENEVA TALKS AND EVEN LEAD TO RESURRECTION OF FAVORITE ECUADOREAN BOGEYMAN, I.E. OUR SEEKING TO HAVE THEM TALK UNDER THREAT OF SANCTIONS.

2. TWO ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATION LEAD US TO PREFER THAT FMS MATTER NOT BE RAISED AT ALL, AND CERTAINLY NOT IN GENEVA, UNTIL WE HAVE SOMETHING MORE POSITIVE AND CONCRETE TO SAY. FIRST, UNTIL NOW BOTH US AND GOE HAVE CAREFULLY AVOIDED RAISING FMS SANCTION ISSUE IN ANY DETAIL IN OFFICIAL CONVERSATIONS. WE HAVE TOLD GOE THAT MATTER IS UNDER REVIEW AND THEY HAVE DELICATELY AVOIDED PRESSING
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MATTER ANY FURTHER (AS OPPOSED TO MAKING A FEDERAL CASE OUT

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OF IT WHICH THEY COULD HAVE). SECOND, WE DOUBT THAT GOE DEL IN GENEVA WOULD BE APPROPRIATE CHANNEL FOR DISCUSSION OF SENSITIVE FMS MATTERS WHOSE RAMIFICATIONS DEL MEMBERS MAY NOT EVEN FULLY UNDERSTAND. ANY EXCHANGE ON FMS, WE BELIEVE, SHOULD BE AT LEAST AT SUBCABINET LEVEL HERE IN QUITO.

3. FINALLY, BY FOREGOING COMMENTS WE DO NOT WISH TO IMPLY THAT WE DO NOT RECOGNIZE LINKAGE BETWEEN LOS TALKS AND FMS. IT IS CLEARLY THERE. BUT WE STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT IT REMAIN IMPLICIT RATHER THAN EXPLICIT AND THAT DEPARTMENT THEREFORE RECONSIDER COURSE OF ACTION PROPOSED REFTEL.
HEMENWAY

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